



Motorcoach Task Force

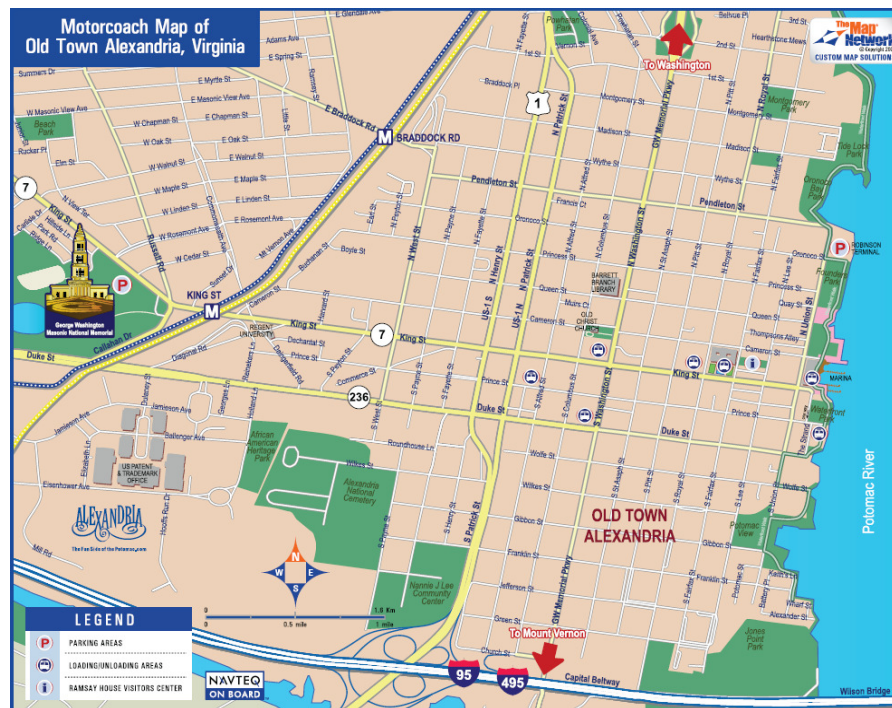
January 12, 2009
Regular Meeting



Agenda

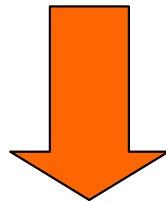
- **Review December 8 Minutes**
- **Report Back from Constituent Groups**
(hold comments on staff report)
- **Recap**
 - December 8 Presentation & Framework
 - What We've Heard from You about DRAFT Report
- **Review DRAFT Staff Report**
- **Next Steps & Schedule**
 - Community Open House & Upcoming Meetings
- **Public and Task Force Q&A**

Framework for Motorcoach Management System



Guiding Principles for Framework

- Citizens seek more regulatory regime but not eliminate all motorcoach traffic
- Tourism & motorcoach-related business is critical to the long-term health of Alexandria



1. System must include fee-based registration
2. Voluntary at first – but authority within 3 years
3. System must limit impacts from certain trip types
4. System must use criteria to identify routes that provide access & disperse impacts across street grid

Proposed 2010 Framework*

1. Hotel-Bound Buses

All buses bound for hotels must register. Hotels not on designated routes will be provided a route. Drop-off/pick-up allowed on hotel property or at designated areas.

2. Buses Bound for Loading/Unloading/Parking east of Washington Street must register.

- a) Buses dispersed onto one of multiple routes depending on destination
- b) *In 2009, no limit on # of buses that can register **
- c) Routes & Unloading/Loading areas will be color coded
- d) Registration to involve a fee structure that favors local companies
- e) Hours for entry/exit to Old Town will be established. After XX pm, entry or exit to Old Town only allowed on King Street
- f) Buses must prominently display registration in window

Proposed 2010 Framework*

3. Sightseeing Buses

- a) Buses w/Alexandria-based step-on guides may get extremely limited # of permits

4. Pass-through Buses

- a) Buses that do not register must stay on Washington Street (or Rte. 1)
- b) Additional loading/unloading may be made available on Washington Street at King Street during peak season only

Proposed 2010 Framework*

- Registration/Permitting System
 - Access to system possible via Internet for hotels, restaurants, destinations
 - Centrally managed by City
 - Presupposes some type of standing commission or advisory group with residents, industry & staff

Proposed 2010 Framework*

- Initial system will be voluntary (1-2 years), after which industry will join City in petitions to Virginia General Assembly for Alexandria to attain regulatory authority to legally manage motorcoaches

Unresolved Issues

- How to Refine the Motorcoach Trip Types (ie. the different “buckets”)
- Smaller Vehicles
- Designated Routes

Report Review

Ad Hoc Motorcoach Task Force
Recommendations



FIRST DRAFT
December 22, 2008

Task Force Recommendations

1. Appoint a workgroup/advisory committee to oversee the future management of motorcoach operations in the City.
2. Instruct staff to conduct counts of motorcoach operations in Alexandria from March through June in anticipation of implementing an on-line motorcoach registration system by March 2010 to include fees and daily limitations on certain types of motorcoach trips.
3. Designate the unit block of King Street one-way westbound permanently to allow for safer traffic flow and provide better motorcoach management.
4. Designate the south side of Jamieson Avenue between Holland Lane and South West Street as short-term motorcoach parking with limited hours and seasonality.
5. Designate new 15-minute loading/unloading spaces in the 100 blocks of North and South Washington Street from March through June to accommodate seasonal increases in motorcoach traffic.
6. Instruct the Alexandria Police Department to more aggressively enforce existing city ordinances with respect to motorcoach traffic and collect/report data related to motorcoach violations.
7. Continue funding the Alexandria Police Department in its motorcoach management efforts on the unit block of King Street.

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About the Report

- Cover Letter/Executive Summary
- Report = recommended management *framework* based on TF findings as outlined December 8
- Task Force will not be the management agent – an advisory/working commission
- City is moving into long-term management and seeks authority to control buses – this will be a long-term process

Overview of Comments

- Confusion @ dedicated routes on p. 33
- How are we going to gather data?
- “Problem” is poorly stated
- Lack of residential issues & concerns
- Enforcement is something we all agree on
- A “designated route” system in disguise
- Report does not address issues of size or number of buses which is a central tenet of OTCA
- Legal questions (both sides)
- Report needs more clarity and transparency
- Some resident groups not represented in process

Next Steps- As Discussed

- Review as a group on January 12
- Community meeting on January 26
- Present to City Council -- February 24
- Implement enforcement, communication & counts in time for spring 2009 peak season
- Designated routes & registration by 2010

Questions & Discussion

www.alexandriava.gov/motorcoach

Thank you.

Rich Baier, P.E.

Director, Dept. of Transportation &
Environmental Services